

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: August 2, 1950

FROM : MR. D. M. LADD *DL*SUBJECT: *De*
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DREW PEARSON ARTICLE
"THE WASHINGTON POST"
JULY 27, 1950ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 12/18/89 BY SP4 *clh/alg*
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Tolson	✓
Ladd	✓
Clegg	✓
Glavin	✓
Nichols	✓
Rosen	✓
Tracy	✓
Harbo	✓
Mohr	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Nease	✓
Gandy	✓

Pursuant to instructions, Mr. De Loach called upon Admiral Hillenkoetter this morning at 10:00 AM and advised him you had noted Drew Pearson's article in "The Washington Post" on July 27, 1950. Hillenkoetter was advised you desired him to know that you had no ambitions for the directorship of CIA, and if the job were offered you it would not be accepted. *R 2-1*

Hillenkoetter replied that the directorship of the Federal Bureau of Investigation was a far better and more enviable position than the directorship of CIA. He stated he respected you highly and he felt certain that you are the most capable man who could be selected for the directorship of CIA. He said, however, he would hate to see a man of your position appointed to such a "messy job" as the one he now holds. Hillenkoetter added he had heard reports that General Walter Bedell Smith had been considered for the CIA top position; however, he considered these reports to be mere rumors.

ACTION

This is for informational purposes only.

CDD:rlk

Attachment

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Merry-Go-Round

FBI Chief Urged as CIA Head

By Drew Pearson

It isn't generally known, but Admiral Roscoe Hillenkoetter, chief of the super-duper spy agency, central intelligence, had asked for sea duty well before the Korean outbreak.



The Admiral has done a better job of foreign intelligence than Congress gives him credit for, but he has never been particularly happy in the job and would like to get back to a battleship. Hillenkoetter was former commander of the battleship Missouri, comes from the State of Missouri, and was picked by Truman personally for the difficult intelligence assignment.

Faced with the admiral's insistence that he wants to be transferred, President Truman has asked Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, former United States Ambassador to Moscow, to take over central intelligence. Smith, so far, has refused, on the ground that he recently underwent an ulcer operation.

General Smith knows the Russians, and would be better than most military men for this assignment. However, Congress, in creating central intelligence, did not intend that it be run by the military.

Therefore, some of the President's friends are urging that he appoint J. Edgar Hoover to this important post.

Hoover is one of the best organizers in Government, has built up one of the best-trained investigation bureaus the world has ever seen, and has it in such good shape that it could operate under a new director.

On the other hand, getting intelligence on a prospective enemy is all-important in this day when a suitcase smuggled into an American harbor, or the flight of one plane across the Arctic, or the secret massing of troops on a certain border could cripple the United States indefinitely.

That is why a man of Hoover's genius ought to be used to head an agency which today has become even more important than the FBI.

on Wire-Tapping

Resting new evidence that accumulates in the Justice Department's belated probe of Senator Brewster's eavesdropping on Howard Hughes, the West Coast aviation mogul.

It will be recalled that three years ago when the GOP Senator from Maine was chairman of the Senate War Investigating Committee, he staged a head-line snatching investigation of the rather far-fetched charge that Hughes had spent Government money extravagantly in building a giant amphibious transport plane.

It turned out, however, that Brewster had something of an ax to grind for his good friends of Pan-American World Airways, and had talked to Hughes earlier about an amalgamation between Pan-Am and his Trans World Airlines.

It also turned out, two years later, that Brewster had used Lieut. Joseph Shimon of the Metropolitan Police of the District of Columbia to tap Howard Hughes' phone and put a microphone in his room. In fact, police Chief Robert Barrett submitted a report to the Justice Department almost one year ago that Shimon, had been tapping wires for Senator Brewster's investigating committee.

Wire-tapping, of course, is barred by section 603 of the Federal Communications Act and is a criminal offense.

Statement by Shimon

The Justice Department, after nine months, finally got around to ordering an FBI investigation. The most interesting thing the FBI has turned up a statement made to a G-man by Lieutenant Shimon that Senator Brewster's secretary paid him for his wire-tapping.

A close friend of Brewster's, William Power Maloney, has been retained as defense counsel for Lieutenant Shimon. Upon Shimon's testimony depends whether or not Senator Brewster becomes involved in a criminal proceeding.

So far, Shimon has stuck to a very careful story. He admits tapping Howard Hughes' phone, but he does not admit giving any information about the wire-tapping to the Senator. This is aimed to let Brewster off the hook.

The Senator from Maine, in turn, has figured out an interesting excuse for his association with the police lieutenant. Friends were worried over threats of physical violence, he says, so Shimon was hired to protect him. In the course

of protecting him, the police lieutenant tapped the wire of Howard Hughes, the last person, incidentally, who would have attacked Brewster physically.

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ENCLOSURE

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